

REMARKS

Applicants would first like to express their appreciation to Examiner Brian P. Whipple for this examination.

Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application. Drawing figure 6 is objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5). The specification is objected to for various informalities. Claims 3, 5, and 13 are objected to under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention. Claims 1, 4-9, and 12-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2003/0158816 to Rouse, hereafter Rouse. Claims 2-3 and 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Rouse in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0120763 to Miloushev et al. (hereafter Miloushev).

Objection to Drawings

Reference characters omitted in the original specification are added as appropriate.

Informalities in the Specification

Informalities in the specification are corrected as suggested by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

Objections to the claims are obviated by the corrections suggested by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 112

The amendments to claims 3, 5, and 8 suggested by the Examiner have been made to correct the indefiniteness thereof.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

Applicants respectfully contend that claim 1 as amended is allowable because it includes a feature that is neither disclosed nor suggested by Rouse or any other references cited in the Office Action, either individually or in combination, namely, “said metafile containing a network address where said media content file can be found and an unencrypted file path leading to said media content file.” The office action suggests that this feature is taught by Rouse at [116] and [122]. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Rouse provides in [116] “a metafile ... is created Server side containing a URL reference to access a temporary access subdirectory in the Subscriber Web application, 2) the temporary access subdirectory of the form “/station/access/tempname” is

created by a System Script launched by the Subscriber Client application. 3) This new empty directory is associated with a temporary Redirect Directive ...". This does not disclose or suggest a metafile containing a network address where said media content file can be found and an unencrypted file path leading to said media content file. Rather it provides a metafile containing an address for a temporary access subdirectory created by the client application and a redirect directive associated with the subdirectory.

While Rouse provides a metafile with a URL reference to a subdirectory created by the subscriber client application, the present invention includes a metafile containing a network address where said media content file can be found and an unencrypted file path leading to said media content file. Thus, the present invention provides a temporary metafile that directs a client directly to a media content file and does not require the client to build a subdirectory that will later be associated with a redirect directive.

Claim 1 is also allowable because it contains another feature that is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references, namely "sending to the customer computer the temporary metafile name." In Rouse, a metafile is sent by the web server to a subscriber upon receipt of the request for protected media content(see step B in figs. 2 and 3). In the present invention, the metafile is not immediately sent by the server to the client. Instead, upon receipt of the request for protected media content, the present invention provides that only the metafile name is sent from the server to the client. The information in the metafile (i.e., network address where said media content file can be found and unencrypted file path) are then used by the customer computer to access the media content file.

Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for the reasons that claim 1 is allowable, as provided above.

Claim 4 is also allowable because it contains another feature that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited references, namely "computing said metafile name based on characteristics of said customer session." Because the metafile name is based on characteristics of the customer session, it can only be used during the customer session, thus making the metafile name more secure. The office action suggests that this feature is provided by Rouse at [127]. Applicants respectfully disagree. Neither [127] nor any other part of Rouse provides that the metafile name is based on characteristics of the customer session.

Claim 5 is also allowable because it contains additional features that are neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited references, namely "receiving said temporary metafile name," and "using said temporary metafile name, requesting the temporary metafile from said application server." As pointed out in the office action, paragraph 24, Rouse provides that the "web server sends webcast metafile back to subscriber." In the present invention, the server sends the metafile name to the customer computer and the customer computer uses the metafile name to request the metafile.

The step of the server sending the metafile name to the customer computer is neither disclosed nor suggested by Rouse, and the step of using the name to request the metafile is also absent in Rouse.

Applicants respectfully contend claim 12 as originally filed is allowable because it includes features that are neither disclosed nor suggested by Rouse or any other references cited in the Office Action, either individually or in combination, namely, "said metafile containing a network address where said media content file can be found and an unencrypted file path leading to said media content file," and "sending to the customer computer the temporary metafile name." These features are the same as in claim 1, and the reasons why they are not disclosed or suggested by Rouse are provided in reference to claim 1.

Applicants respectfully contend claim 13 as originally filed is allowable because it includes features that are neither disclosed nor suggested by Rouse or any other references cited in the Office Action, either individually or in combination, namely, "said metafile containing a network address where said media content file can be found and an unencrypted file path leading to said media content file," and "to send to the customer computer the temporary metafile name." These features are the same as in claim 1, and the reasons why they are not disclosed or suggested by Rouse are provided in reference to claim 1.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103

Claim 2 is also allowable because it contains another feature that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited references, namely "said temporary metafile also contains an encrypted name of said media content file." As discussed above, the metafile of Rouse provides a metafile with a URL reference to a subdirectory created by the subscriber client application. Rouse does not disclose or suggest a metafile with an encrypted name of a media content file. Rouse does not disclose or suggest encrypting the media content file name. Instead, Rouse uses a redirect directive to point at the desired media content from the server, where the redirect directive is associated with a subdirectory created by the client application and providing a reference to the protected URL. Moreover, Rouse does not appear to provide the media content file name in the metafile.

The office action suggests that Rouse disclosed said temporary metafile also contains a name of said media content file at [116] lines 9-14 and [122] lines 1-9. Applicants respectfully disagree. Rouse provides that the metafile contains a URL reference to access a subdirectory. Moreover, Rouse provides that the subdirectory is empty, but that it is associated with a temporary redirect directive. Furthermore, the redirect directive does not provide the media content file name but rather a temporary link that in turn points to the media content file.

The office action suggests that it would have been obvious to modify Rouse by using encryption as taught by Miloushev. Applicants respectfully disagree. One of ordinary skill would have no reason to encrypt the media content file name in the system and method of Rouse because

the filename is not provided in the metafile. As described above, Rouse employs a different method of protecting the media content.

Also, Miloushev does not disclose or suggest that a server encrypt a media content file name and provide the encrypted name to a customer (client) computer. Instead, Miloushev provides in [395] that the encryption key resides on the customer (enterprise's) premises.

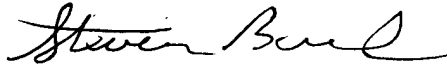
Claims 3 and 10 further depend from claim 2 and are allowable for the reason that claim 2 is allowable, as provided above.

Claim 3 is also allowable because it contains another feature that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited references, namely "said customer computer requesting said temporary metafile to learn the encrypted media content file name, unencrypted media content file path and said network address, and said customer computer subsequently sending said encrypted media content file name and said encrypted media content file path to said network address." The office action suggests that Rouse disclosed said temporary metafile also contains a name of said media content file at [116] lines 9-14 and [122] lines 1-9. Applicants respectfully disagree. In Rouse the customer computer must connect to the protected URL through the application server. The web address and file name of the protected media content file are not provided to the customer computer. In Rouse, the metafile contains a URL reference to access a subdirectory. Moreover, Rouse provides that the subdirectory is empty, but that it is associated with a temporary redirect directive. Furthermore, the redirect directive does not provide the media content file name but rather a temporary link that in turn points to the media content file.

Conclusion

In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully contend that claims 1-10 and 12-14 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments, examination and allowance of the claims, and issuance of letters patent for this invention.

Sincerely,



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